# The Great India Survey: An Activity Journal

A geographical expedition into the Size, Location, and Global Connections of one of the world's oldest civilizations.

N
NE
E
SE
S
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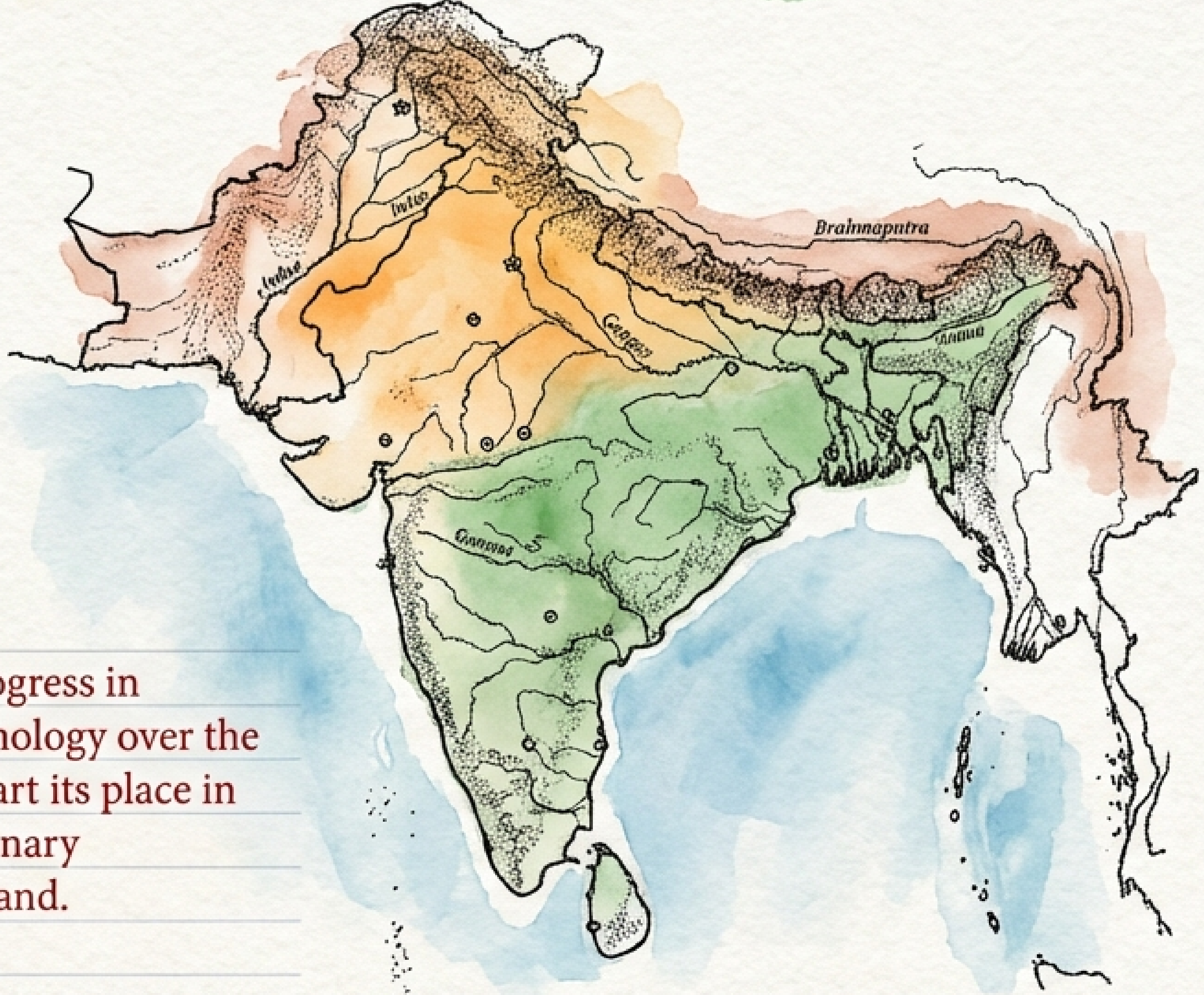
NW

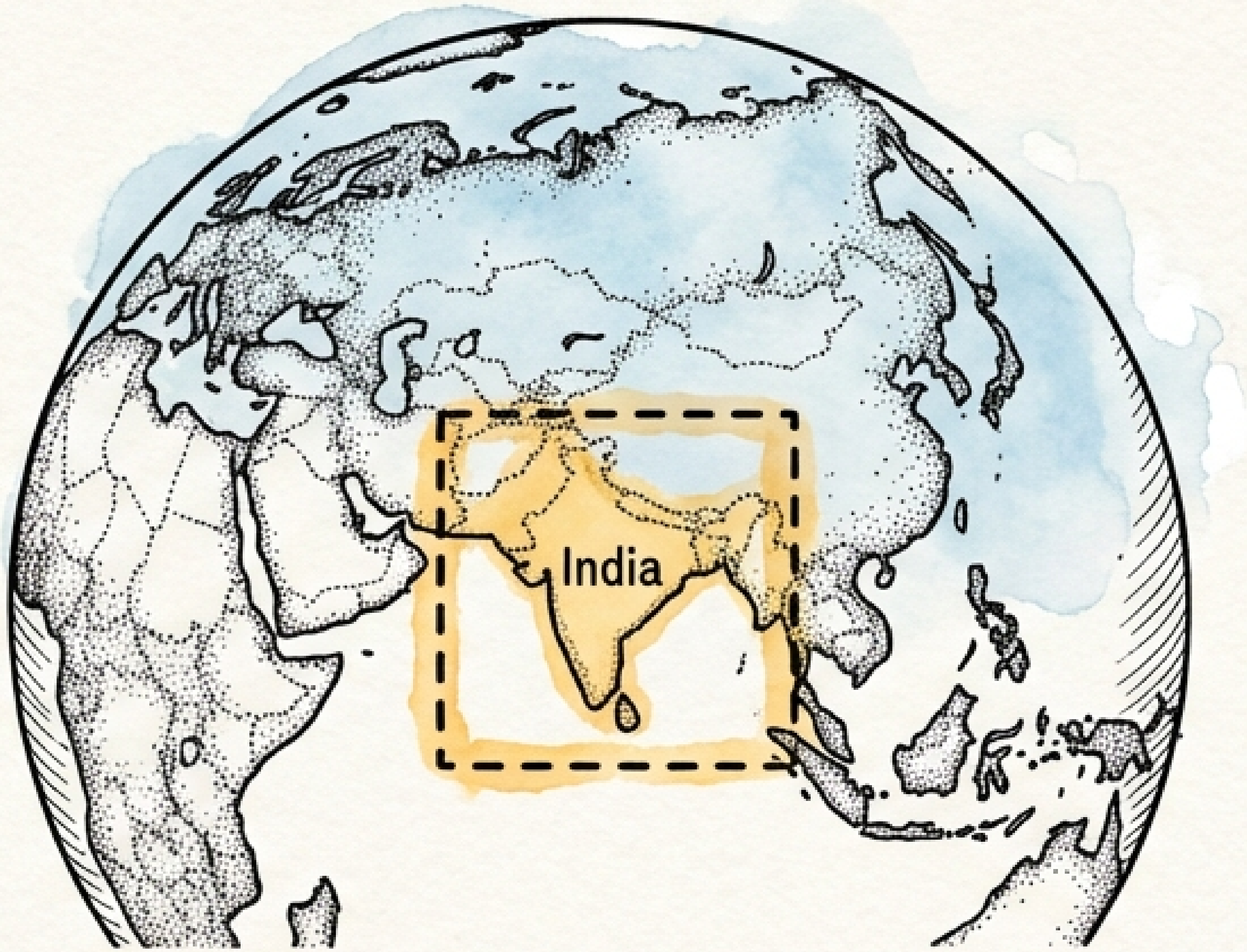


India has made remarkable progress in agriculture, industry, and technology over the last five decades. Today, we chart its place in world history. Grab your imaginary pencils—it is time to map the land.

VISA ENTRY - INDIA
EXPLORATION PERMIT
DATE: OCT 26, 2024
OFFICIAL OFFICIAL

# Activity 1: Navigation Log

## Locate the Northern Hemisphere



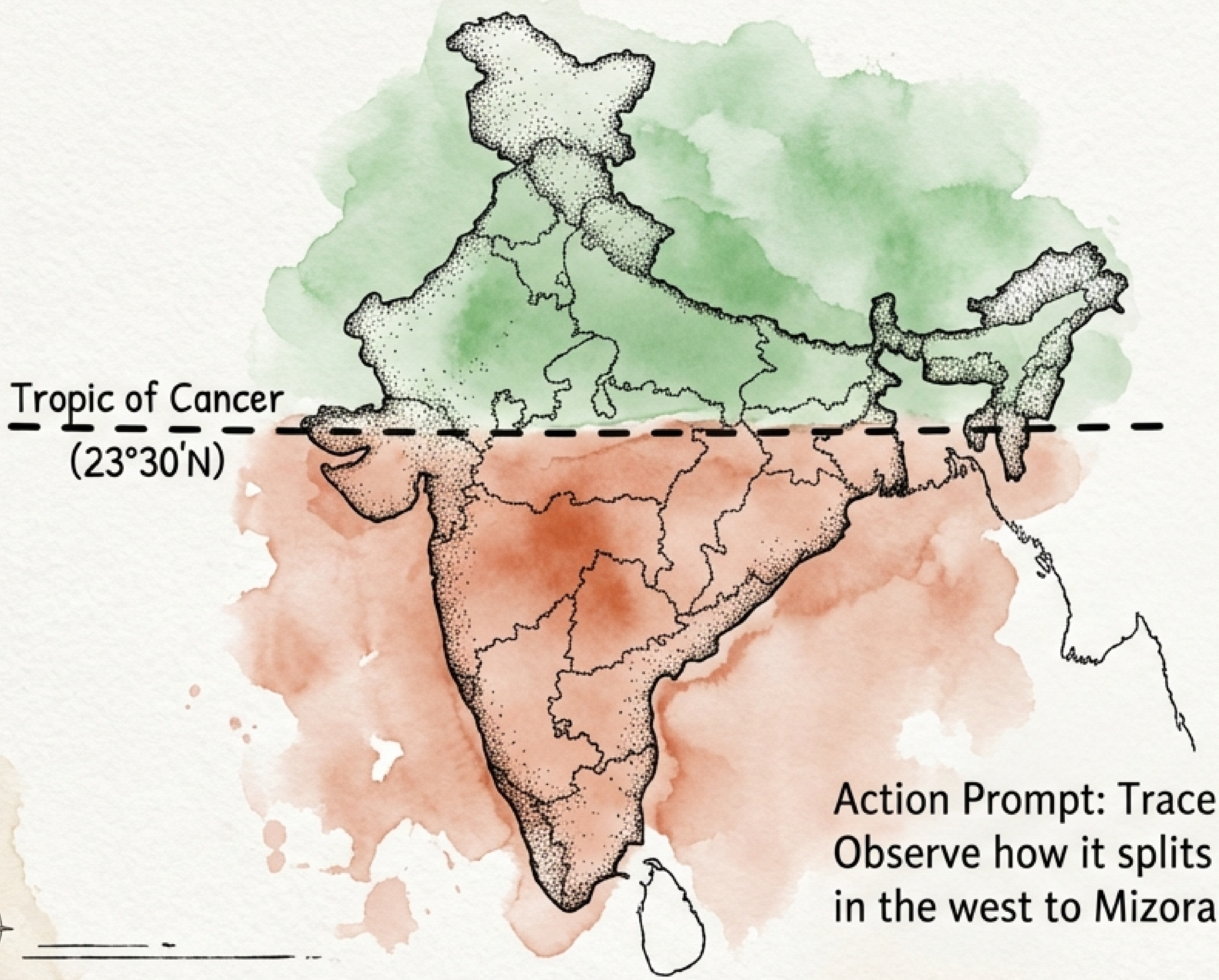
**Hemisphere:** Entirely located in the Northern Hemisphere.

**Latitudinal Extent:** Between 8°4'N and 37°6'N.

**Longitudinal Extent:** Between 68°7'E and 97°25'E.

**Visualizing the Grid:** The mainland extends from Kashmir in the north to Kanyakumari in the south. Can you identify India's position in South Asia?

# Activity 2: The Great Divide

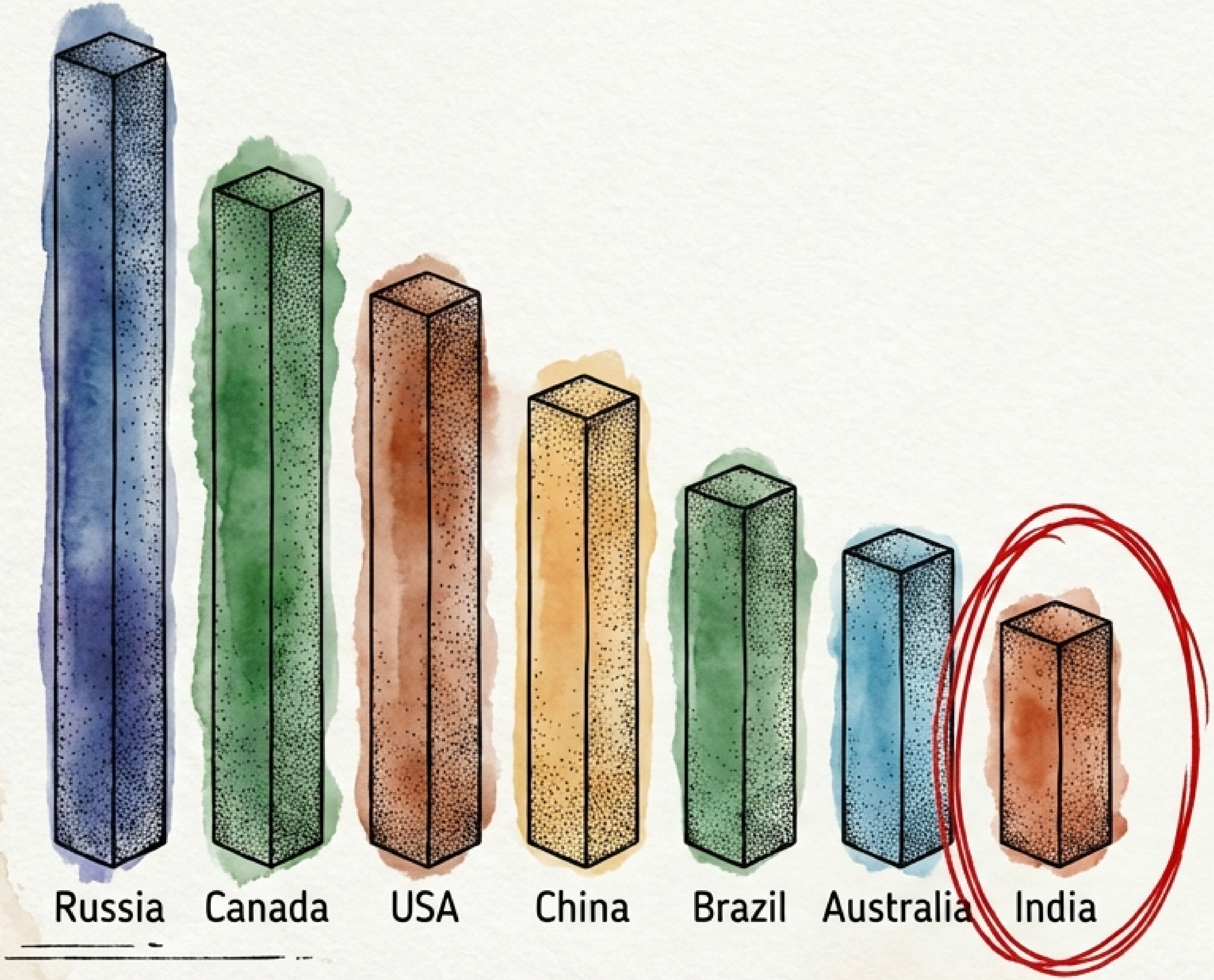


Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N): Divides the country into almost two equal parts.

Geography Note: The landmass to the south tapers into the Indian Ocean, while the north spreads broadly towards the Himalayas.

Action Prompt: Trace the Tropic of Cancer in red. Observe how it splits the nation from the Rann of Kutch in the west to Mizoram in the east.

# Activity 3: Ranking the Giants



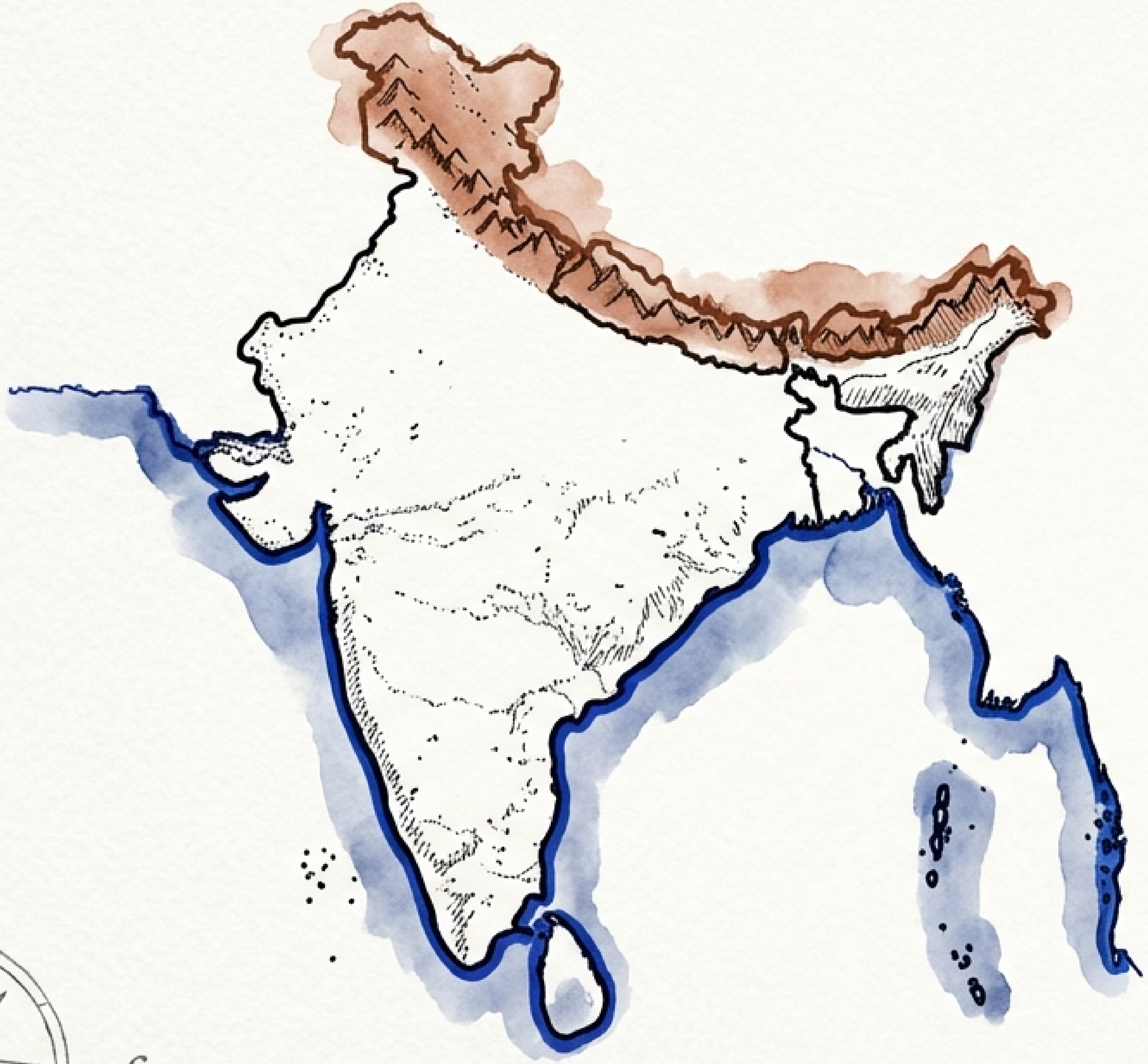
Total Area: 3.28 million square km.

Global Share: Accounts for 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.

Rank: India is the 7th largest country in the world.

Action Prompt: Circle the 7th pillar in the chart. That is India!

# Activity 4: Measuring the Perimeter



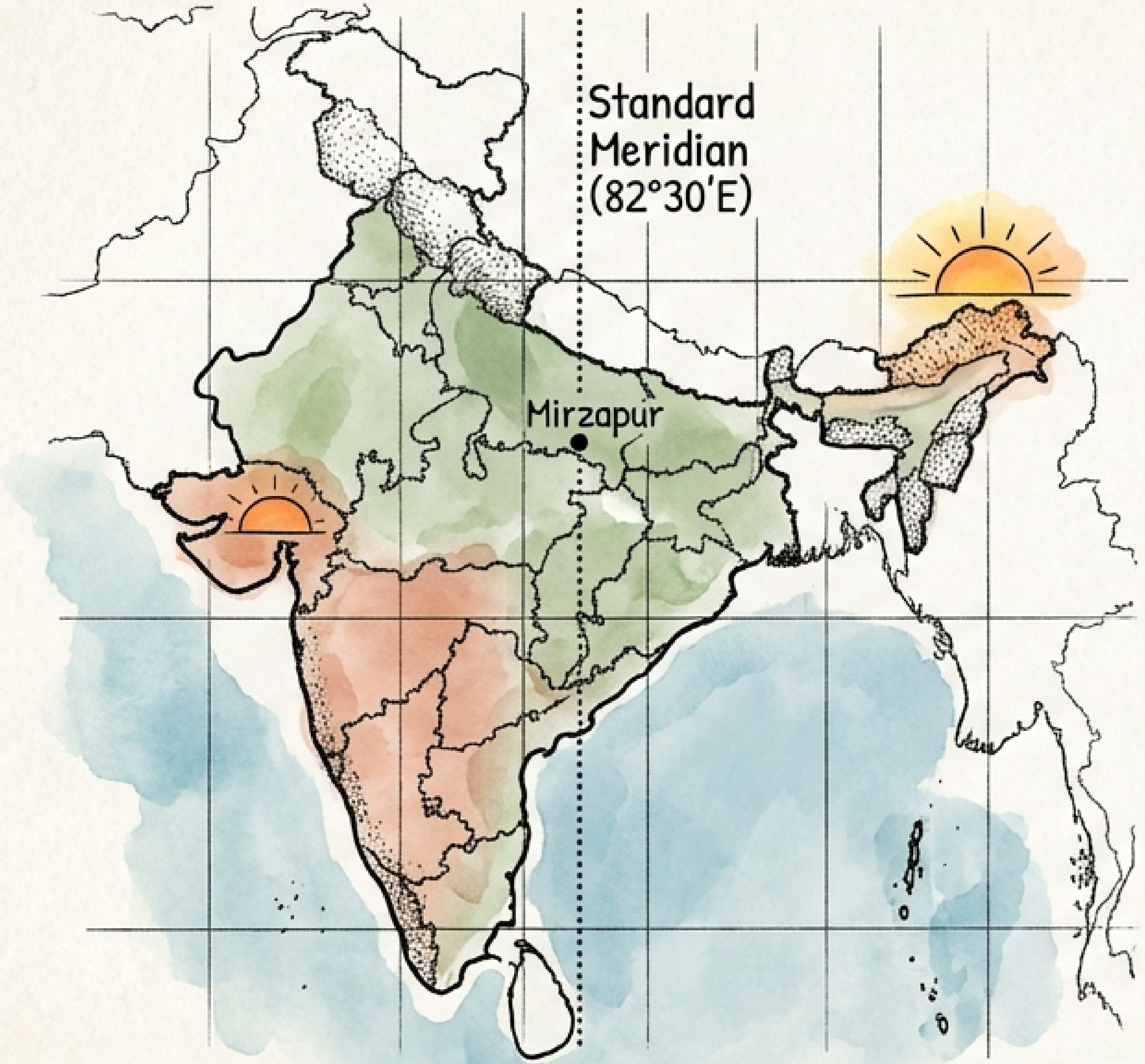
Land Boundary: Approximately 15,200 km.

Coastline: 7,516.6 km (including Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep).

Physical Features: Bounded by young fold mountains in the northwest, north, and northeast. South of 22°N latitude, the land narrows towards the Indian Ocean.

Action Prompt: Trace the land border (mountains) in brown and the coastline (sea) in blue.

# Activity 5: Synchronizing the Clocks



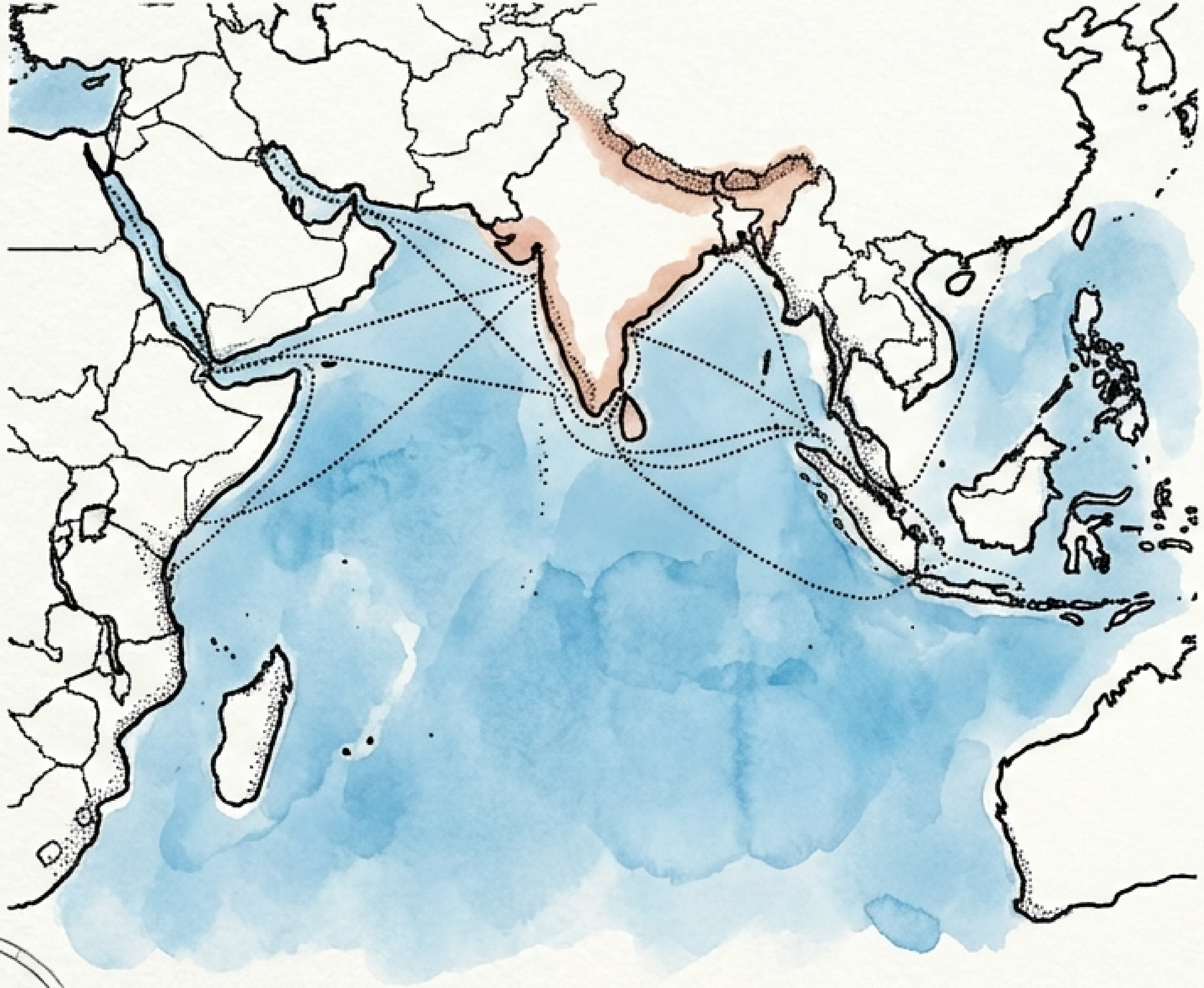
**The Time Lag:** There is a time lag of 2 hours between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh. The sun rises two hours earlier in the East.

**The Solution:** To keep the country on one schedule, the time along the Standard Meridian of India (82°30'E) is taken as the standard time for the whole country.

Location: This meridian passes through Mirzapur (Uttar Pradesh).

Why do our watches show the same time? Because we follow the central line (82°30'E). Trace this meridian vertically across the map.

# Activity 6: The Central Hub



**Strategic Location:** India is centrally located between East and West Asia. The Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean, helping establish close contact with West Asia, Africa, and Europe from the west coast, and Southeast/East Asia from the east coast.

**Unique Status:** No other country has such a long coastline on the Indian Ocean, justifying the ocean's name.

**Suez Canal Fact:** Since the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, India's distance from Europe has been reduced by 7,000 km.

**Action Prompt:** Color the ocean routes connecting the ports. Notice how India acts as a bridge between the East and West?

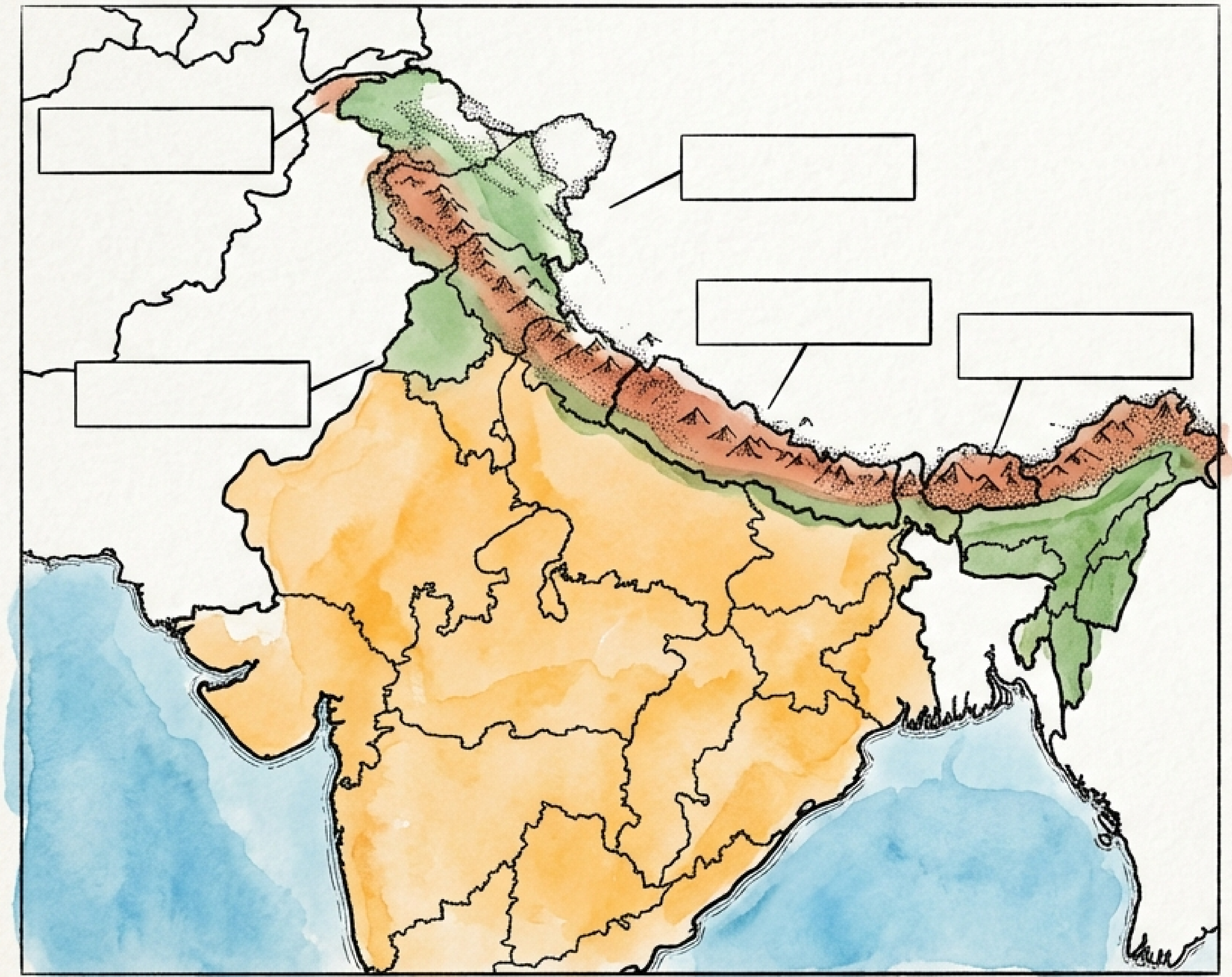
# Activity 7: The Exchange of Ideas

Routes of Antiquity: The land routes across the mountain passes are much older than the maritime contacts. These routes contributed to the exchange of ideas and commodities.

Exports (From India): The ideas of the Upanishads, the Ramayana, the stories of Panchatantra, and the Indian numerals and decimal system reached the world. Spices, muslin, and merchandise were also sent abroad.

Imports (To India): The influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural styles of domes and minarets from West Asia, can be seen in different parts of our country.

# Activity 8: Neighbors of the North & West



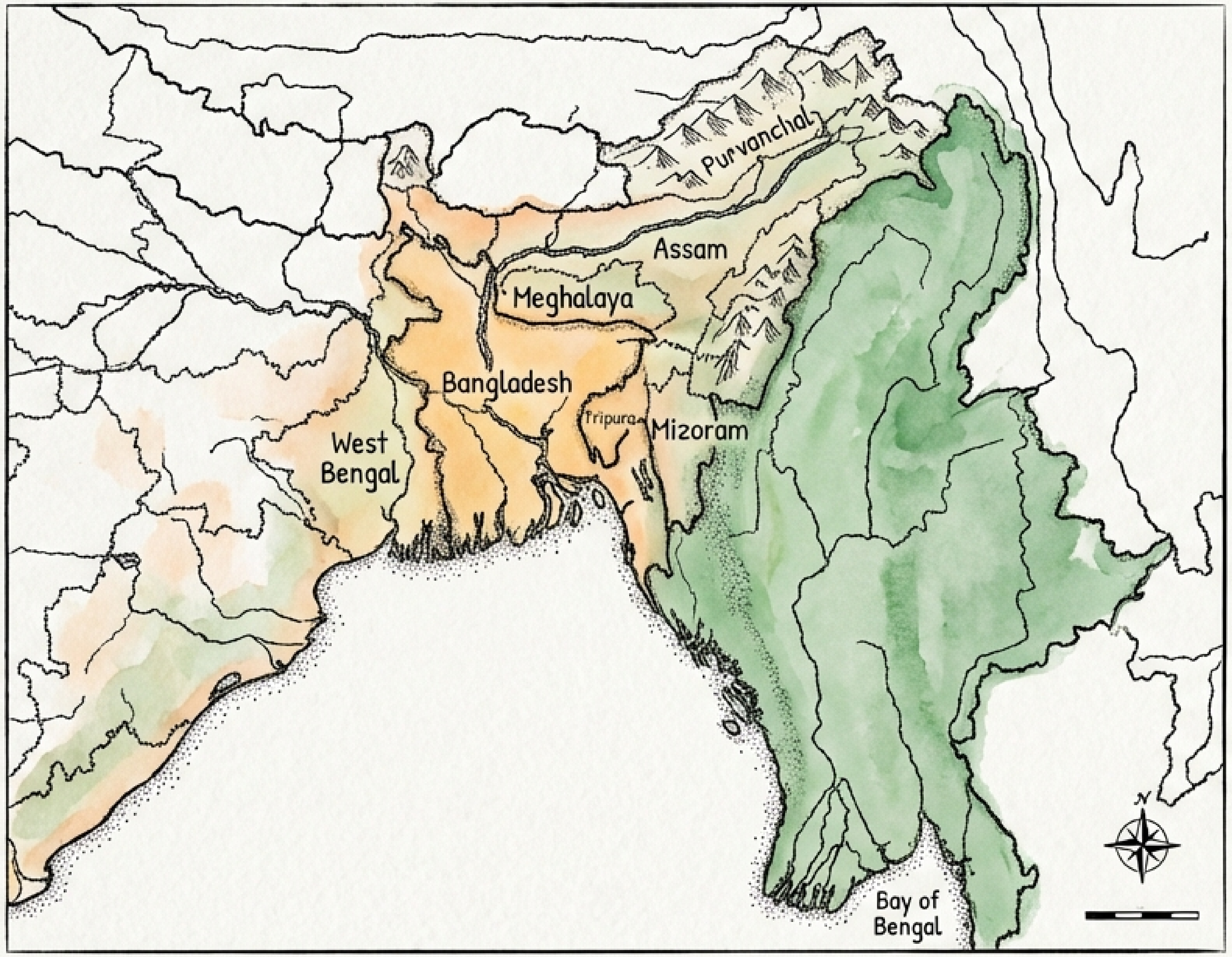
**Northwest:** Pakistan and Afghanistan.

**North:** China (Tibet), Nepal, and Bhutan.

**Geography:** These neighbors are separated from India largely by the Himalayan range.

**Action Prompt:** Label the boxes pointing to these countries. Can you find the small border shared with Afghanistan?

# Activity 9: The Eastern Frontier

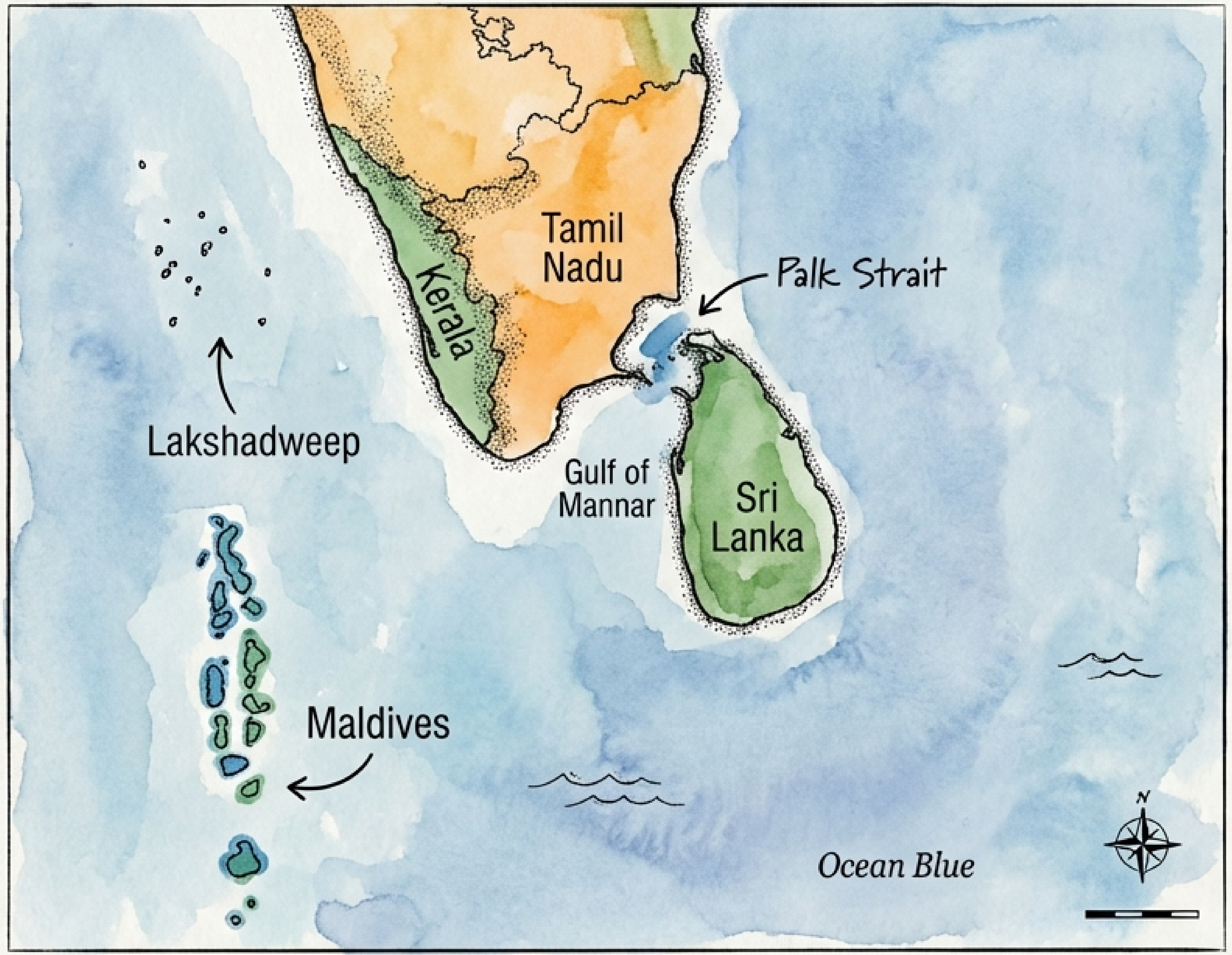

Purvanchal
Assam
Meghalaya
Bangladesh
Tripura
Mizoram
West Bengal
Bay of Bengal
N

East: Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Geography: Bangladesh is almost surrounded by Indian states. Myanmar lies further east, across the Purvanchal hills.

Action Prompt: Shade Myanmar in green and Bangladesh in yellow. Notice how the Indian state of Tripura is surrounded on three sides by Bangladesh?

# Activity 10: Across the Sea


Tamil Nadu
Kerala
Palk Strait
Lakshadweep
Gulf of Mannar
Sri Lanka
Maldives
N
Ocean Blue

**Southern Neighbors:** Two island countries—Sri Lanka and Maldives.

**Sri Lanka:** Separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.

**Maldives:** Islands situated to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands.

**Action Prompt:** Find the narrow water channel between India and Sri Lanka. That is the Palk Strait.

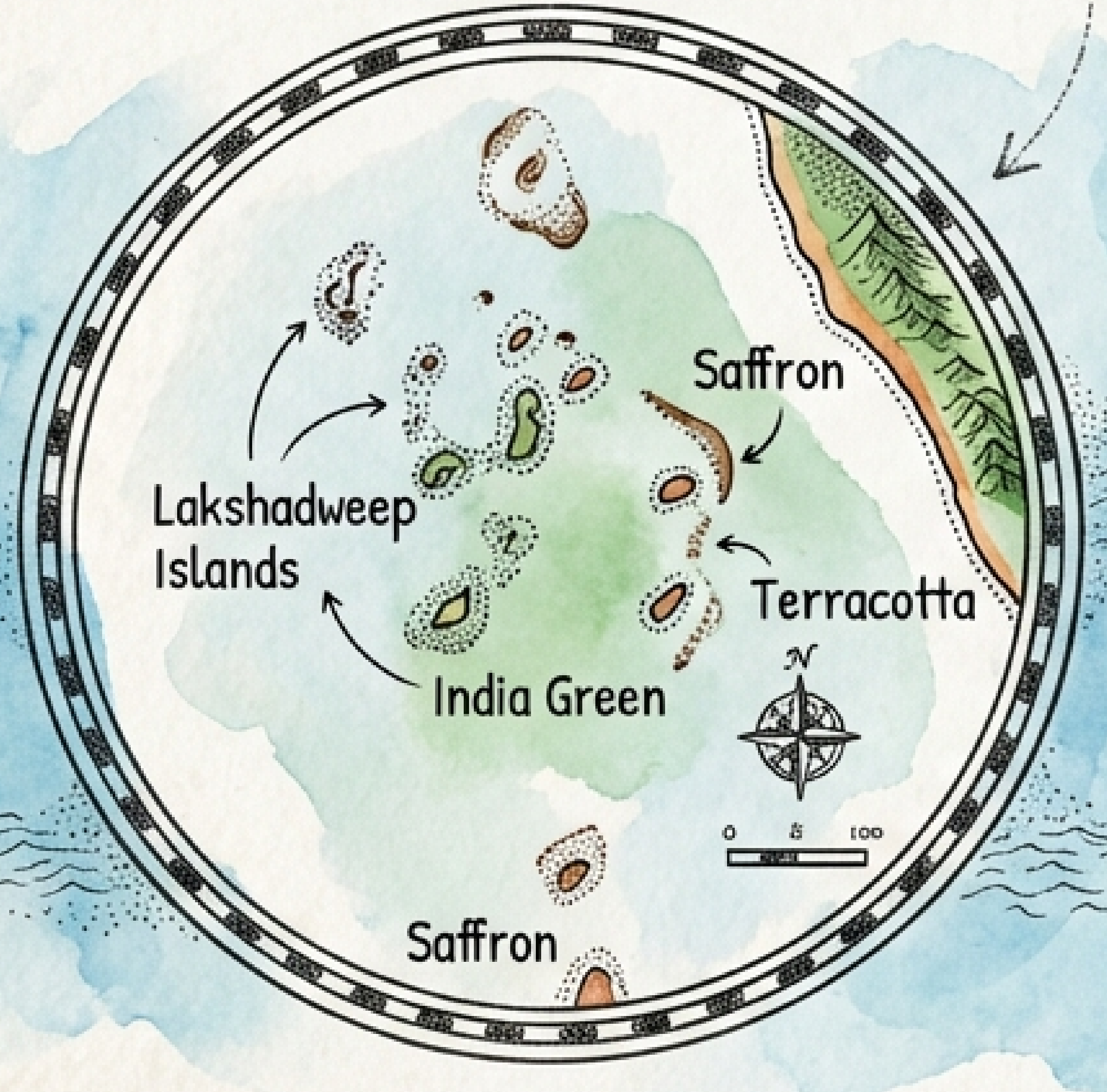
# Activity 11: Archipelago Adventures

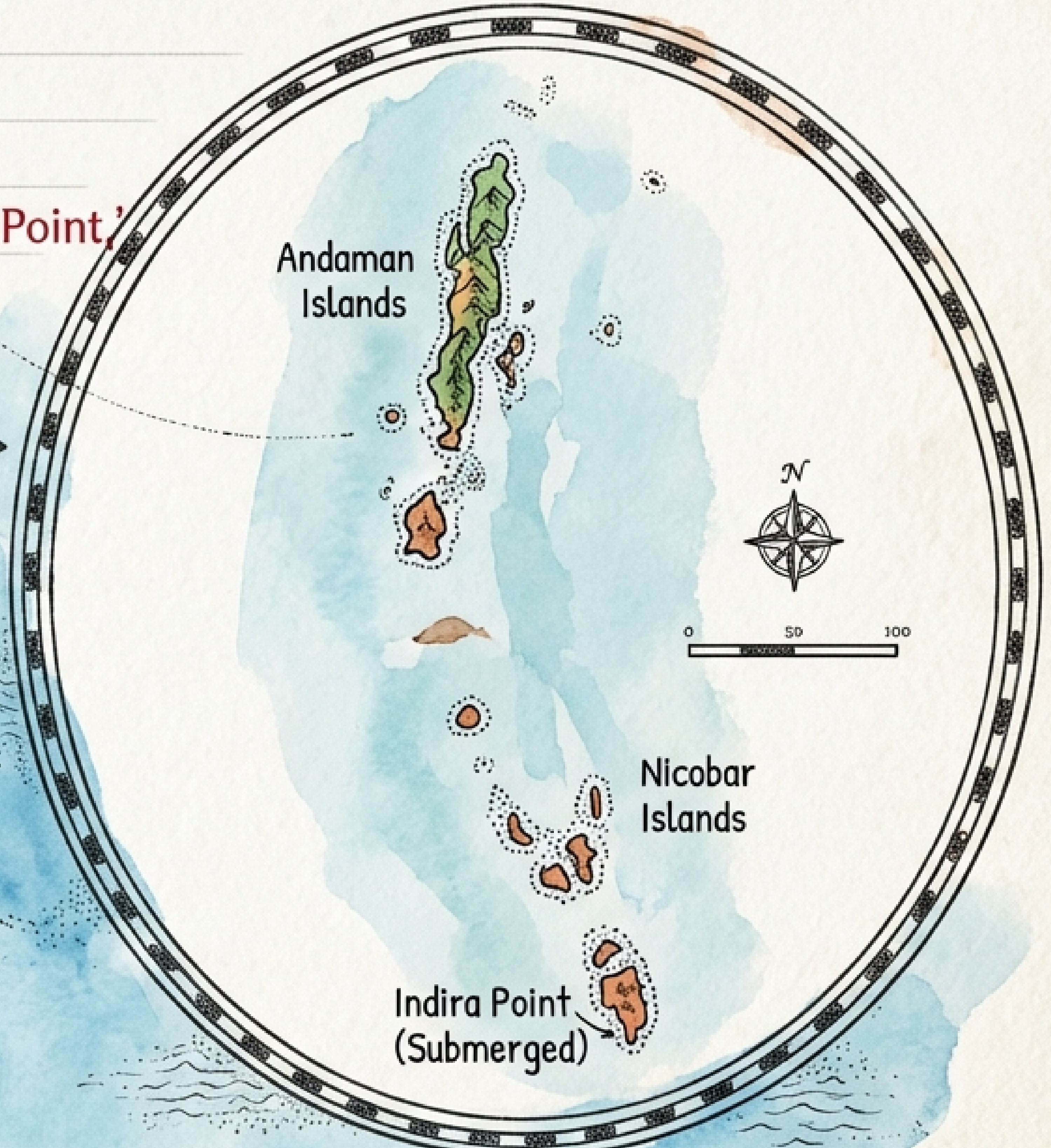
Southeast (Bay of Bengal): Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Southwest (Arabian Sea): Lakshadweep Islands.

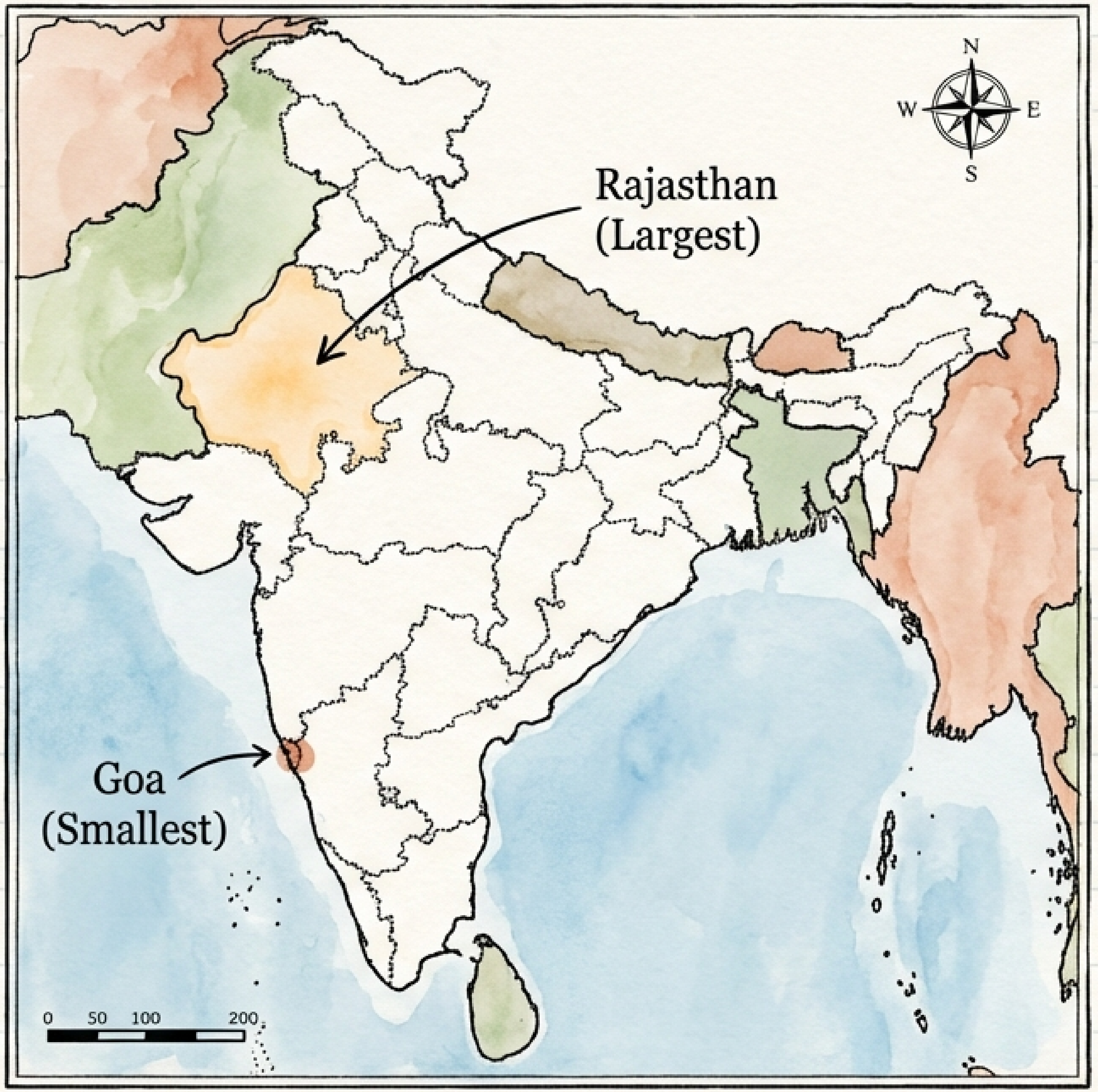
Historical Fact: The southernmost point of the Indian Union, ‘Indira Point,’ got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami.

Lotrick Hand: Locate these island groups in the blue sea. Which group stretches further south?


Saffron
Lakshadweep Islands
Terracotta
India Green
N
0 50 100
Saffron


Andaman Islands
N
0 50 100
Nicobar Islands
Indira Point (Submerged)

# Activity 12: The Political Puzzle


N
W
E
S
Rajasthan
(Largest)
Goa
(Smallest)
0
50
100
200

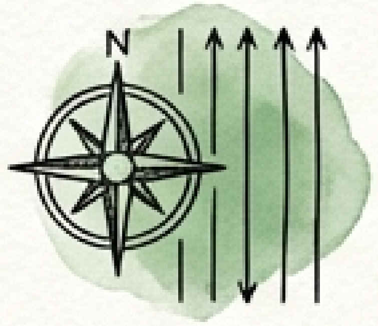
**Structure:** India consists of 28 States and 8 Union Territories.

**Before 1947:** There were two types of states—Provinces (ruled by British officials) and Princely States (ruled by local hereditary rulers).

**Action Prompt:**
Challenge: Identify the largest state by area (Rajasthan) and the smallest (Goa). Can you find them on the map?

# Activity 13: Expedition Review

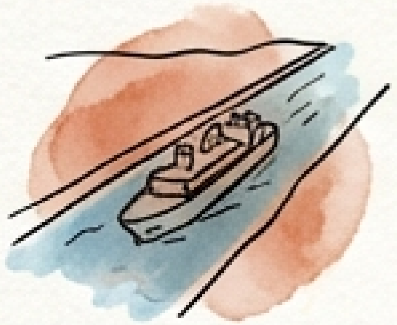
Question 1: The Tropic of Cancer does NOT pass through:
(a) Rajasthan ☐ (b) Odisha ☑ (c) Chhattisgarh ☐ (d) Tripura?
[Answer: Odisha]



Question 2: The easternmost longitude of India is:
(a) 97° 25’ E ☑ (b) 77° 6’ E ☐ (c) 68° 7’ E? [Answer: 97° 25’ E]

Question 3: Which latitude divides India into two parts? [Answer: 23°30’ N]

23°30’ N



Question 4: Which canal reduced the distance between India and Europe?
[Answer: Suez Canal]

Suez Canal

# Mission Accomplished

You have successfully charted the Size and Location of India.

CERTIFIED EXPLORER
INDIA GEOGRAPHY EXPEDITION

**Summary:** From the snowy peaks of the north to the Indian Ocean in the south, and from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal, you have mapped the 7th largest country in the world.

**Final Thought:** Keep exploring the map. Every coordinate tells a story.